

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A ~~high melting point~~ copolymer prepared by heat-polymerizing cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound while divisionally adding a monomer mixture of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and the vinyl-substituted aromatic compound to a solvent, wherein a use amount of ~~[[a]] the solvent in heat polymerization is 0.1 time or more~~ at least 0.2 and less than ~~0.5 time~~ 0.45 times based on the mass of the whole monomers, and the copolymer has a softening point falling in a range of 100 to 135°C.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A production process for a ~~high melting point~~ copolymer having a softening point falling in a range of 100 to 135°C, wherein cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound are heat-polymerized while divisionally adding a monomer mixture of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and the vinyl-substituted aromatic compound to a solvent in the presence of ~~[[a]] the solvent of 10 mass parts or more~~ at least 20 and less than ~~[[50]]~~ 45 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the monomers.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A hydrogenated copolymer that is obtained by hydrogenating ~~the high melting point~~ a copolymer as described in claim 1 prepared by heat-polymerizing cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound while divisionally adding a monomer mixture of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and the vinyl-substituted aromatic monomer to a solvent, wherein a use amount of the solvent in heat polymerization is at least 0.2 and less than 0.45 times based on

the mass of the whole monomers, and the copolymer before hydrogenating has a softening point falling in a range of 100 to 135°C.

Claim 4 (Original): The hydrogenated copolymer as described in claim 3, wherein the softening point falls in a range of 125 to 160°C.

Claim 5 (Original): The hydrogenated copolymer as described in claim 4, wherein the softening point falls in a range of 135 to 160°C.

Claim 6 (New): The copolymer as described in claim 1, wherein the vinyl-substituted aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of styrene, α -methylstyrene, vinyltoluene, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 7 (New): The production process as described in claim 2, wherein the vinyl-substituted aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of styrene, α -methylstyrene, vinyltoluene, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (New): The production process as described in claim 2, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of benzene, toluene, xylene, cyclohexane, dimethylcyclohexane, and ethylcyclohexane.